(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that even now in certain fields science in India is much ahead than the average global level; and

(d) if so, the names of those fields?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) No, Sir. Participation in science research at global level is usually measured by number of research papers published in cited international journals. The number of research papers published by Indian scientists has increased from 14983 in 1980 to 19448 in 2005. India's share in terms of percentage of world publications insciences first declined from 2.9% in 1980 to 1.6% in 1996, but again steadily increased to 1.9% in 2005. While it is difficult to comment whether India is much ahead of the global average level, Indian scientists are doing intenationally competitive research in many scientific fields, e.g. solid state chemistry, theoretical high energy physics, structural biology, etc.

Lightning casualties in Orissa

2066. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether to control lightning casualties in Orissa, it is proposed to install anti-lightning towers;

(b) if so, the places that have been identified for installation of such towers;

(c) whether this project would be funded by some foreign agency; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal under consideration to install anti-lightning towers.

(b) to (d) Does not arise, in view of (a) above.